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Romania: definition of and régime applicable to islets
and islands similar to islets

(Item 19 (b))

Article 1

1. An islet is a naturally formed elevation of land (or simply an eminence of the sea-bed) less than one square kilometre in area, surrounded by water, which is above water at high tide.
2. An island similar to an islet is a naturally formed elevation of land (or simply an eminence of the sea-bed) surrounded by water, which is above water at high tide, which is more than one square kilometre but less than ... square kilometres in area, which is not or cannot be inhabited (permanently) or which does not or cannot have its own economic life.

Article 2

1. In principle, a State may not invoke the existence, in one of its maritime zones, of islets or islands similar to islets, as defined in article 1, for the purpose of extending the marine spaces which belong to its coasts.
2. Where such elevations of land are situated along the coast of the same State, in immediate proximity thereto, they shall be taken into consideration, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, for the purpose of establishing the baseline from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured.
3. Where an islet or island similar to an islet is situated in the territorial sea of the same State but very close to its outer limit, the State in question may reasonably extend its territorial waters seaward or establish an additional maritime zone for the protection of lighthouses or other installations on such islet or island. The additional zones thus established shall in no way affect the marine spaces belonging to the coasts of the neighbouring State or States.
4. Islets or islands similar to islets which are situated beyond the territorial sea, on the continental shelf or in the economic zone of the same State, may have around

C-1158

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A/CONF.62/C.2/L.53
English
Page 2

them or around some of their sectors security areas or even territorial waters in so far as this is without prejudice to the marine spaces which belong to the coasts of the neighbouring State or States.

Where such eminences of the sea-bed are situated very close to the outer limit of the continental shelf or of the economic zone, the extension of their security zones or their territorial waters shall be established by agreement with the neighbouring State or States, or, where appropriate, with the authority for the international zone, having regard to all relevant geographic, geological or other factors.

Article 3

The marine spaces of islets or islands similar to islets situated in the territorial sea, on the continental shelf or in the economic zone of another State shall be determined by agreement between the States concerned or by other means of pacific settlement used in international practice.

The marine spaces of such elevations of land situated in the international zone of the sea-bed shall be established by agreement with the international authority for that zone.
